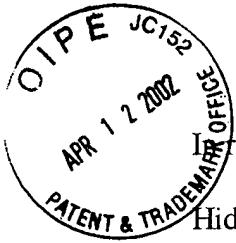


PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q58782



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application of
Hidetoshi KODAMA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/544,543

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: L. Tran

Filed: April 06, 2000

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is not necessary. No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a

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U.S. Appln. No. 09/544,543
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Foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

Also in compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), Applicant submits an English language Abstract for each foreign language reference.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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